

below, composed of a thickish membrane supported on the inner face by a strong chitinous bow having a projecting process near each lower angle for the attachment of the occlusor muscles. Oœcia represented by a small chamber in the upper part of the cell, which opens above the oral orifice.

Few questions have given rise to more disputation and confusion than as to what should be understood under the term *Vincularia*. I am not, however, here prepared to enter into this *vexata quæstio*, with respect to which some useful remarks by Mr. Hincks will be found in one of his communications on the Family Microporidæ.<sup>1</sup>

The above definition, therefore, is only proposed provisionally, and it is here intended to restrict the term to cylindrical or rather polygonal, continuous growths, partaking of the characters of *Micropora* and *Steganoporella*, and intermediate, as it were, between those two genera, and forming with them the Family Microporidæ; differing from *Micropora* chiefly in the conformation of the oral orifice and the absence of distinct oœcia, and from *Steganoporella* in the cavity of the zoœcium not being divided into two chambers, in the incompleteness of the operculum, and its simpler chitinous framework, the absence of the two suboral chitinous trabeculæ, &c

(1) *Vincularia gothica*, d'Orbigny (Pl. XXIII. fig. 1).

*Vincularia gothica*, d'Orb., Palæont. Franç., p. 68, pl. deliv. figs. 13-16.

„ *novæ hollandiæ*, Haswell, Proc. Linn. Soc. New South Wales, p. 41, pl. iii. fig. 3.

„ *steganoporoides*,<sup>2</sup> Macgilliv., New Species of Bryozoa from the Marion Islands, Proc. Roy. Soc. Victoria, June 1881, p. 6, pl. ii. fig. 5.

*Character*.—Zoarium furcately branched, octagonal. Zoœcia elongate, arched above, straightly truncate at bottom; border smooth. Primary or epithecal orifice semicircular or subcrescentic. Lamina occupying the lower two-thirds of the area. Its upper border somewhat incurved. On a level with the upper border of the lamina a tooth-like process springs from each side of the zoœcium, which gradually elongating meet in the mesial line, where they are joined by a median process or denticle, which rises gradually from the upper border of the lamina, thus forming a bridge with two arches and a thick central pier. Surface of bordering ridges and lamina perfectly smooth and imperforate. Oœcia and avicularia 0. Operculum 0''·013 × ·0085 incomplete below, membrane thick, supported on the inner face near the border by a very strong chitinous arched bow,

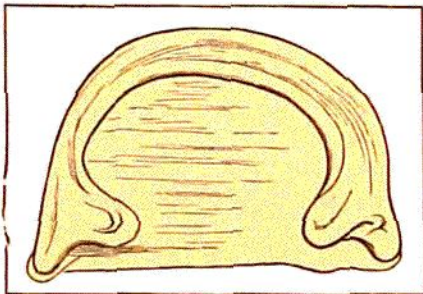


FIG. 2.—*Vincularia gothica*.

<sup>1</sup> *Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist.*, ser. 5, vol. ix., 1882, p. 119.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Hincks (*Gen. Hist. Mar. Polyz.*, *Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist.*, ser. 5, vol. ix. p. 119, 1882) seems to regard this as a form of his *Steganoporella smittii* (*Brit. Mar. Polyz.*, vol. i. p. 178), which, however, I should myself refer to the genus *Micropora*. It is clearly quite distinct from Mr. Macgillivray's species.